

## Communicable Diseases and Epidemiology

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### Health Advisory: Meningococcal Disease Outbreak Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in Chicago – Information for King County Healthcare Providers, 15 June 2013

#### Action requested:

- Be aware of an outbreak of invasive meningococcal disease (IMD) among MSM in Chicago.
- Educate MSM traveling to Chicago about the risk factors for acquisition of meningococcal disease, signs and symptoms of disease, the need for prompt post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) after contact with a person with IMD, and to seek prompt medical evaluation if symptoms develop after exposure to a person with IMD.
- Meningococcal vaccination is not routinely recommended for MSM; however, King County healthcare providers should consider meningococcal vaccination for MSM traveling to Chicago during this outbreak based on individual risk assessment in the context of the information below.

**Background:** Officials from the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health are currently investigating an outbreak of serogroup C meningococcal disease among MSM. Five cases of culture-confirmed serogroup C meningococcal disease have been reported in the Chicago metropolitan area from May 12 – June 8, 2015. Healthcare providers should consider vaccination of at-risk MSM traveling to Chicago. **Risk factors include MSM, HIV infection, and use of online “hook-up” apps to meet anonymous sexual partners. Based on case demographics, African American MSM appear to be at increased risk.**

In anticipation of the 46th Annual Chicago Pride (June 20-21, 2015) and Chicago Black Pride (July 2-5, 2015) events, CDC recommends increasing awareness on the signs and symptoms of meningococcal disease among MSM, and suggests considering vaccination of individuals traveling to Chicago who are (1) sexually active MSM infected with HIV and (2) MSM who have sex with anonymous partners or use online “hook-up” apps to identify male sexual partners.

**There has been no increase in meningococcal disease in King County, including among MSM.**

Meningococcal vaccination is routinely recommended for all adolescents and certain persons at high-risk, but not for MSM or persons with HIV infection in the absence of other risk factors. **For indications for meningococcal vaccination see <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mening/who-vaccinate.htm>**

#### Serogroup C meningococcal vaccines for adults

- For persons aged 2 through 55 years: Two quadrivalent meningococcal polysaccharide-protein conjugate vaccines provide protection against meningococcal serogroups A, C, W, and Y (MenACWY-D [Menactra, manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur, Inc., Swiftwater, Pennsylvania] and MenACWY-CRM [Menveo, manufactured by Novartis Vaccines, Cambridge, Massachusetts]).
- For persons aged ≥56 years: Quadrivalent meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4 [Menomune, manufactured by sanofi pasteur, Inc., Swiftwater, Pennsylvania]) is the only vaccine licensed.
- HIV infection is not an indication for routine MenACWY vaccination. Persons with HIV infection who are recommended to receive vaccine for other indications should receive a 2-dose primary series, administered 8–12 weeks apart, because evidence suggests that persons with HIV do not respond optimally to a single dose.

#### Additional information and resources:

- CDC meningococcal disease information: <http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/index.html>
- CDC/ACIP meningococcal vaccine information: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mening/default.htm>